

22: Raswan

MJ1 Saudi Arabia
Bedouin MJ4

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/The map following p. 502 should be assembled according to the plan given below:

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TRIBAL AREAS AND MIGRATION LINES OF THE NORTH ARABIAN BEDOUINS

Carl R. Baswan

[With separate map, Pl. V, facing p. 302]

104 SINCE 1911 the writer has spent a total of about seven years
among the Bedouins. The main purpose of his repeated visits
to northern Arabia has been the breeding of Arab horses and
study of their history. Incidentally he has been impelled to determine
as accurately as possible the *dihs* or pasture districts of the various
Bedouin tribes.

104 The accompanying maps are based largely upon personal observa-
102 tions and inquiries among the 'Anese, Shammar, Shorarat, Huatat,
Beni Sakhr, and other tribes, supplemented by data gleaned from
Doughty's "Travels in Arabia Deserta" and more especially from
Alois Muill's works. While the maps are in no sense final or complete,
the writer is confident that their delineation of the tribal areas is
more accurate than that shown on any previous maps.

DEFINITE BOUNDARIES

619 The migrations of the Bedouins are not arbitrary, aimless wander-
131 ings in the wilderness. Well defined landmarks limit them. Tribes
101 related by blood ties may frequently use the same districts together
221 at certain seasons of the year. One tribe may conclude a treaty with
strangers, permitting the latter to use its pastures and watering places
for a specified period. Or else a powerful tribe, like the Ruala, may
invade an enemy's territory without warning. In this case constant
bickering, raiding, and skirmishing is the inevitable result.

A great northward shift of the Shammar and 'Anese nomads
took place during the first part of the seventeenth century, and the
existing apportionment of the tribal areas was at that time roughly
established. The boundaries which the various tribes now claim as
their own and which are marked by water holes, variations in the
desert surface (as between lava rock, gravel, red sand, etc.), dry
watercourses, solitary hills, mountain ranges, cultivated tracts, and
the like, have been definitely fixed since the beginning of the last
century. Some of the more important of these landmarks are shown
on Plate V, facing p. 302.

As a typical example of a tribal area let us examine the *dihs* of
the 'Amarat tribe of the 'Anese "nation" (Fig. 1). The eastern limit

settlers, and the 'Amarat might ultimately be induced by the govern-
ment of 'Iraq to settle in Mesopotamia after the new irrigation projects
have been developed. The Ruala would undoubtedly hold out the
longest against any such policy, many of them preferring to perish
in skirmishes or return to their brothers in central Arabia rather than
adopt the life of the settlers. The Waid 'Ali sheep breeders would
settle in the neighborhood of Hama and Hama', and the camel breeders
among them would remain with the Ruala.

Three hundred years have sufficed to bring the Bedouin tribes
who left their central Arabian homeland to the brink of an abyss in
which all the romance, beauty, and liberty of their nomadic life
will disappear. Whatever one may think about the "backward,
medieval, puritanical" rule of Ibn Sa'ud, the domain of this Wahhabi
descendant of the Zana Muslim will some day be the last refuge for
the few true Bedouin clans that love the old, free, glamorous, roving
life better than the stale and degrading existence of the settlers in ter-
ritories under French or British control.

NOTES ON THE MAPS

Plate V shows tribal boundaries, natural features, and place names. Owing to
the confusion resulting from the overlapping of the tribal areas, Figures 1, 2, and 3
have been added representing these territories as differentiated by shading. On
these maps reference numbers are given to the following notes explaining certain
points of interest in connection with the movements of each tribe. The place names
mentioned in these notes will all be found on Plate V.¹

Detailed tables revealing the internal subdivisions of the various tribes into
subtribes, clans, etc., will be found in "A Handbook of Arabia," pp. 47-55, and
also scattered through the various volumes of *Asia Minor*. In many instances
these classifications do not correspond. Since the pages on which the tables are
found in Muir's publications are not readily determined from the indexes, the
following references are included for the benefit of those wishing to make a critical
study of the organization of the tribes whose territories are shown on the accom-
panying maps:

Figure 1. 'Zana Tribes. Zana Muslim, including the Ruala and Waid 'Ali,
A. D., pp. 14-15; Waid 'Ali, A. D., p. 24. 'Amarat, A. D., p. 32. Fed'an, A. D.,
p. 33. She'a, P., pp. 33, 37. Waid Shaysan, N. S., p. 35.

¹On the maps and in the text of this article Muir's spellings of the spelling of place names
and tribal names have, in general, been followed. The transliteration, however, follows the English
rather than the conventional scheme, even in quotations from Muir's works.

²The abbreviations are as follows:

A. D., *Asia Minor: Arabia Deserta*, *Geogr. Comp. Soc. General Explorations and Studies* No. 6,
New York, 1901.

A. P., *Asia Minor: Arabia Deserta*, 3 vols., *Kaiserliche Akad. der Wiss., Vienna*, 1901.

M. S., *Asia Minor: Arabia Deserta*, *Geogr. Comp. Soc. General Explorations and Studies* No. 6,
New York, 1901.

N. S., *Asia Minor: Arabia Deserta*, *Geogr. Comp. Soc. General Explorations and Studies* No. 6,
New York, 1901.

P., *Asia Minor: Arabia Deserta*, *Geogr. Comp. Soc. General Explorations and Studies* No. 6,
New York, 1901.

S., *Asia Minor: Arabia Deserta*, *Geogr. Comp. Soc. General Explorations and Studies* No. 6,
New York, 1901.

Handbook, "A Handbook of Arabia," Vol. 2, General, compiled by the Geographical Section of
the Royal Geographical Society, British Admiralty, London, 1901.

Diagram, C. H. Doughty, *Tarikh al-Arab al-Bihar*, 2 vols., London, 1880, vol. 1, p. 100.

Figure 2. Shammar and Related Tribes. Northern Shammar, Handbook, p. 74. Tuman, N. N., p. 32 (according to Handbook, p. 80, these are listed as a subtribe of the Adnan). Adnan, N. N., p. 33. 'Abdu, N. N., pp. 32-33. Sijara, N. N., pp. 31-32. Zahr, Handbook, pp. 81-83.

Other Major Tribes. Umur, P., p. 84. Beni 'Atiyya, N. N., p. 235. Bili, N. H., p. 211. Jebayna, Handbook, p. 63. Harb, Handbook, pp. 64-67. 'Areyhan, Handbook, pp. 67-69. 'Ajman, Handbook, pp. 85-87. Murryr, Handbook, pp. 83-84.

Figure 3. Tribes of the Second Rank. Jhur, M. E., p. 83. Hadediyyin, P., p. 151. Sha'ban: 'Alaite subdivision, M. E., p. 186; Wafde subdivision, M. E., p. 188. 'Aqydat, M. E., pp. 73-74. Deym, M. E., pp. 143-144. Beni Tamim, M. E., p. 139. Zaha', M. E., p. 127. Kham'al: Beni Salame division, M. E., p. 107. Fua'ra, P., p. 37. Sleyb: Al'Im subdivision (the Sleyb are scattered over northern Arabia; some of their subdivisions and areas are indicated in A. D., p. 231). Kualba, A. D., p. 16. Beni Sakhr, A. P., Vol. 3, pp. 119-129. Shararat, A. D., p. 136. 'Imran, M. H., p. 79. Huatat ibn Jasi, N. H., pp. 6-7; A. P., Vol. 3, pp. 51-54. Huatat ibn Jad, N. H., p. 69; A. P., Vol. 3, pp. 54-55. Huatat at-Tihama, N. H., p. 129; A. P., Vol. 3, pp. 48-49. Humayda, Handbook, p. 59; A. P., Vol. 3, p. 103. 'Amarin clan, A. P., Vol. 3, pp. 58-59.

FIGURE 1. 'AYDE TRIBES

1. The inhabitants of Hama' and Hama entrust their flocks to the 'Ayde and Hama groups of the Weld 'Ali. The sheykh Al-Tayyar of the Weld 'Ali owns houses in Hama. Sheykh Hamed, and Al-Bur (see A. D., pp. 290-291).
2. North of Al-Barde are good lowland spring pastures of the Sha'a.
3. Near 'Aqlat Shuab is buried Turki ibn Mhryd, Fed'an chief (A. D., p. 62).
4. Near Al-Baghdadi is a garden belonging to Ibn Hadhdhal of the 'Amarat tribe.
5. The lowland of Ar-Rasa "is in cultivation and belongs to the head chief Fahad ibn Deym ibn Hadhdhal of the 'Amarat tribe. His fortified farm, Al-Qayr, is at the southeastern edge of the fields, and he maintains a small house at the spring of Al-Yasin" (A. D., p. 239).
6. The 'Amarat camp between Al-Fellaja and Baghdad in August and September; later they go to Karbala.
7. The family of Ibn Hadhdhal have houses at Karbala and Basra (see A. D., p. 254).
8. Al-Hamad and Al-Wadiyan are the winter pasture grounds of the Ruala in years of sufficient rain; if the rains do not suffice they go to the eastern borders of the Nafud or to the vicinity of Tayma'.
9. "From the end of June until the end of August the Ruala pasture in An-Nayra." This summer pasture is called washt. After September they leave for Al-Hamad and Al-Wadiyan (A. D., p. 408).
10. The people of Nasib pay tribute to Nuri ibn Sha'lan, head chief of the Ruala, when the Ruala return from Nejd in June (A. D., p. 283).
11. Lihnan is visited in lean years by the Ruala.
12. Some Musabib of the Qumay subdivision of the Sha'a tribe camp with the Beni Sakhr; others with the Bili (see Figs. 2 and 3).
13. Routes taken by the northern Weld 'Ali to their southern relatives on the Ruala dha (pasture districts).
14. The Huatat sometimes camp with the Ruala in this region.
15. In times of peace the Al Dughman clan of the Ruala camp in this vicinity (see N. H., p. 12).
16. The well of Hebeke in the district of Al-Haal or Al-Haal once belonged to Ibn Bneyye of the Al Sha'lan family of the Al Mar'at clan of the Ruala (A. D., p. 12; N. N., p. 13).
17. Al-Ma'aniyya belongs to the 'Anam, not to the Shammar (N. N., p. 33).

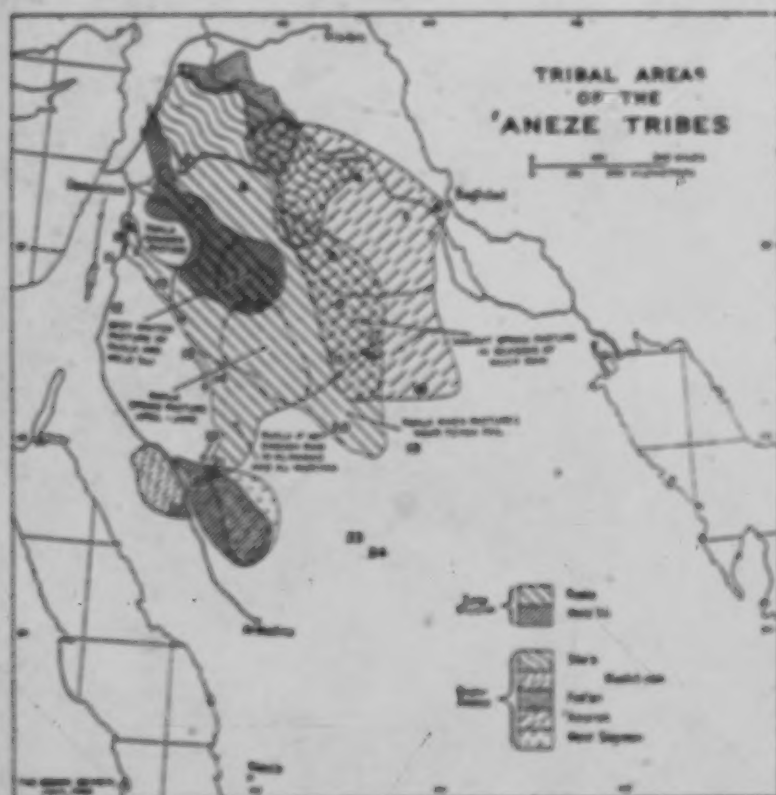


FIG. 1

18. The Hejira is the spring pasture grounds of the 'Amarat, Sinjara Shammar, Zafra, and even of the Muntalig in seasons of plentiful rain.
19. Tayyibiyyat 'Aneze at one time belonged to the Dukhamake branch of the 'Amarat (A. D., p. 32; N. N., p. 26).
20. The southern Wadi 'Ali and the Al Mur'as clan of the Ruala join when the pastures northwest of Tayfah fall and go together into Al-Lahle and Al-Hamad (see A. D., p. 186).
21. When there is not enough rain in Al-Hamad and Al-Wadiyan the Ruala go to the vicinity of Tayfah and the northern Najad. When they leave, their enemies (for example, Shacarat, Wadi Heyein, Heyein, and Beni 'Atiyya) may take their place (A. D., p. 143).
22. "The best valleys upon both sides the Harra, east of Hajr, are sown all years by some of the Mushila Arab. Their harvest up, they collect the handfuls of tarts, and with their cattle go forth to wander a while as the nomads" (Doughty, Vol. 1, p. 234).
23. Samia was formerly in the diru (territory) of the Ruala; the Harb and Beni Salim (Wadi Heyein) were taxed here by Ibn Rashid (Doughty, Vol. 2, p. 301).
24. Ibn Rashid taxed the Wadi 'Ali at Al-Fura (ibid.).

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6. The Northern Shammar trade at Deyr as-Jar and have their agent (wasif) there.
7. In certain years when the winter pastures are good the Northern Shammar migrate to Nejd.
8. The country between Ma'an and Wadi Sirhan after April is war territory between the Huastat and their enemies, the Shazarat, Beni Sakhr, and Shammar (see N. H., p. 14).
9. Until the rain ponds have dried up (and of April) the Huastat bin-Jasi encamp over the mountains Al-Hamra and Al-'Afar in territory which belongs to the Shazarat (N. H., p. 15).
10. Shammar are sometimes found in the vicinity of Al-Bayyat (see A. D., pp. 212-213).
11. Early summer camping grounds of the Najara Shammar.
12. Al-Hadi (Hadi): summer camping place of the Najara Shammar.
13. Cairn marking the grave of Bander, a chief of the Zaydi clan of the Tuman tribe (N. H., p. 193).
14. See Fig. 1, note 18.

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many on the southwestern border of the 'Eja mountains." They were "at one time subject to the reigning family of Al Jarba, who have emigrated to Mampoutia together with their clan. The 'Amud have remained in their original homeland and joined the Najara" (N. H., p. 94).

21. See Fig. 1, note 25.
22. Dica of the Beni Khaled, also used during certain seasons by the 'Ajman.
23. Dica of the Beni Najr, also used during certain seasons by the 'Ajman.

FIGURE 3. TRIBES OF THE INTERIOR RAJIL

1. Hamayda: The "Beni Hamayda," said by Douglas (Vol. 1, p. 24) to be "possessors of the most excellent strains of Arab horses, and in this fresh and plain country there is always plenty of wild pasture."
2. "The Beni Sakhr and the Hattat have no strictly defined frontiers, and when in the territory of the settlers both tribes often lay claim to the same settlements and exact payment from the same settlers. This proceeding generally results in skirmishes" (N. H., pp. 12-14).
3. See Fig. 1, note 13.
4. See Fig. 2, note 3.
5. After the end of April the Hattat fix Jasi camp in this vicinity.
6. See Fig. 2, note 4.
7. See Fig. 1, note 14.
8. "The head chief Abu Taysa [of the Hattat at-Thana] generally resided in the settlement of Dha" (N. H., p. 129).
9. See Fig. 1, note 21.
10. Two-thirds of the game inhabitants of Hiti come from the Dhaqa tribe (M. E., p. 27).
11. Al-Khazra: the property of Zahir, chief of the Maghara clan of the Khazra tribe (A. D., p. 289).

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Bedouin MJ4

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following p 502 (a)

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NORTHERN ARABIA BEDOUIN TRIBAL AREAS AND RELATED LANDMARKS

BY CARL R. RASWAN

SCALE 1 : 8000 000

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MILES
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KILOMETERS

BOUNDARIES OF TRIBAL AREAS

BOUNDARIES

----- Saudi Arabia
----- Iraq
----- Syria
----- Jordan, West Bank
----- Palestine

BOUNDARIES OF OTHER AREAS

----- British Mandate, Transjordan, Iraq
----- French Mandate, Syria, Lebanon, Transjordan
----- British Mandate, Iraq
----- French Mandate, Syria, Lebanon, Transjordan
----- British Mandate, Iraq
----- French Mandate, Syria, Lebanon, Transjordan

BOUNDARIES OF THE BEDOUIN AREAS

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• Settlement
• Spring or Mining Area



following p. 302 (b)

22:Raswan T-5(ca. 1911-1930)1930 MJ1 Saudi Arabia
Bedouin MJ4



following p 502 (c)



Following 502 (d)

25: Theisiger T-3 (1944-47) 1949 MJ1 Saudi Arabia
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